

George Washington to William Marony, January 12, 1776, Instructions, The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick, Editor.

INSTRUCTIONS TO WILLIAM MARONY

Head Quarters, January 12, 1776.

All Persons guilty of capital Crimes, and Crimes not triable by a regimental Court Martial are to be sent to the Provost.

The Provost is not to receive any Prisoner without a Crime specified in Writing, and signed by the Person committing him. No Prisoner is to be suffered to be absent from his Confinement untill released by proper Authority.

The Provost Marshal is to provide a suitable Person, when necessary, to execute the Sentences of General Courts Martial approved of and directed to be enforced by the Commander in Chief.

When any Men are sent to the Provost, the Provost Marshal is to send a Report of them immediately to the Regiment they belong to; and no Man is to be received by the Provost unless his Crime is sent with him.

The Provost is to make a Return every Morning by ten O'Clock, to the Adjutant General, of the Number of Prisoners under Guard, specifying the Regiments they belong to, their Crimes, by whom and how long confined.

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The Provost is to take due Care, that all Orders from the Judge Advocate respecting the Trials of Prisoners be punctually executed, and is to post proper Centries from his Guard, at such Times and in such Places as a General Court Martial may sit.

The Provost is frequently to take a Party from his Guard and patrol the Avenues and Environs of the Camp, is to take up and confine all disorderly and suspicious Persons, to suppress Riots and Disturbances and to inform the Quarter Master General of all Persons who keep unwarranted and destructive Dram Shops, and all other pernicious and Camp Nusances.

The Provost is to receive and obey all such Orders and Instructions as may at any Time be given him by his Excellency the Commander in Chief, the Adjutant General, the Quarter Master General, and the Judge Advocate of the Army of the United Colonies.